

§ 170.900

22. Paying the cost of closing of transportation facilities due to safety or other concerns.

23. Maintaining airport runways, heliport pads, and their public access roads.

24. Maintaining and operating BIA public ferry boats.

25. Making highway alignment changes for safety reasons. These changes require prior notice to the Secretary.

26. Making temporary highway alignment or relocation changes for emergency reasons.

27. Maintaining other IRR intermodal transportation facilities provided that there is a properly executed agreement with the owning public authority within available funding.

Subpart H—Miscellaneous Provisions

HAZARDOUS AND NUCLEAR WASTE TRANSPORTATION

§ 170.900 What is the purpose of the provisions relating to transportation of hazardous and nuclear waste?

Sections 170.900 through 170.907 on transportation of nuclear and hazardous waste are provided for information only, they do not create any legal responsibilities or duties for any person or entity, and are not intended to create any basis for a cause of action under the Federal Tort Claims Act.

§ 170.901 What standards govern transportation of radioactive and hazardous materials?

DOT, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Environmental Protection Agency have established standards and regulations for the shipment of radioactive and hazardous materials. Legal authority includes, but is not limited to, 23 U.S.C. 141; 23 U.S.C. 127; 49 CFR parts 107, 171–180; 10 CFR part 71.

§ 170.902 What is the role of State, tribal, and local governments?

State, tribal, and local governments typically provide for the safety of their residents and other persons and protection of resources within their jurisdictions. With respect to radioactive and hazardous materials, some State, tribal, and local governments enact legislation, execute cooperative agree-

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ments, designate alternate transportation routes, develop emergency response plans, perform emergency response, issue permits, conduct vehicle inspections, enforce traffic laws, and perform highway construction and maintenance. These activities must not conflict with Federal laws and regulations.

§ 170.903 Who notifies tribes of the transport of radioactive waste?

The Department of Energy (DOE) has elected, by policy, to notify tribes of DOE shipments through their jurisdiction.

§ 170.904 Who responds to an accident involving a radioactive or hazardous materials shipment?

Tribal, Federal, local, and State police, fire departments, and rescue squads are often the first to respond to transportation accidents involving radioactive or hazardous materials. If radioactive materials are involved, DOE typically:

(a) Ensures that appropriate State and tribal agencies are contacted and coordinate any necessary Radiological Assistance Program team activities; and

(b) Dispatches a Radiological Assistance Program team that may include nuclear engineers, health physicists, industrial hygienists, public affairs specialists, and other personnel who provide related services.

§ 170.905 How can tribes obtain training in handling hazardous material?

(a) Tribes cannot use IRR Program funds to train personnel to handle radioactive and hazardous material.

(b) Tribes can seek training from DOE, EPA, NRC, OSHA, States, and other sources. Funding is available from DOT under the Hazardous Materials Uniform Safety Act, EPA for monitoring and FEMA for general preparedness.

§ 170.906 Who cleans up radioactive and hazardous material spills?

The carrier is typically responsible for cleanup of a radioactive or hazardous material spill with assistance from the shipper using established

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standards and guidelines. The carrier should work with the appropriate tribal, local, State and Federal agencies to address all cleanup issues, such as arranging or repackaging of the cargo, if necessary, and disposing of contaminated materials.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND INDIAN PREFERENCE

§ 170.910 What information on the IRR Program or projects must BIA provide to tribes?

At the written request of a tribe, BIA must provide available information on the IRR Program or projects to a tribe within a reasonable time.

§ 170.911 Are Indians entitled to employment and training preferences?

(a) Federal law gives hiring and training preferences, to the greatest extent feasible, to Indians for all work performed under the IRR Program.

(b) Under 25 U.S.C. 450e(b) and 23 U.S.C. 204(e), Indian organizations and Indian-owned economic enterprises are entitled to a preference, to the greatest extent feasible, in the award of contracts, subcontracts and sub-grants for all work performed under the IRR Program.

§ 170.912 Does Indian employment preference apply to Federal-aid Highway Projects?

(a) Tribal, State, and local governments may provide an Indian employment preference for Indians living on or near a reservation on projects and contracts that meet the definition of an Indian Reservation Road. (See 23 U.S.C. 101(a)(12) and 140(d), and 23 CFR 635.117(d).)

(b) Tribes may target recruiting efforts toward Indians living on or near Indian reservations, Indian lands, Alaska Native villages, pueblos, and Indian communities.

(c) Tribes and tribal employment rights offices should work cooperatively with State and local governments to develop contract provisions promoting employment opportunities for Indians on eligible federally funded transportation projects. Tribal, State, and local representatives should confer to establish Indian employment goals for these projects.

§ 170.913 Do tribal-specific employment rights and contract preference laws apply?

Yes. When a tribe or consortium administers an IRR Program or project intended to benefit that tribe or a tribe within the consortium, the benefitting tribe's employment rights and contracting preference laws apply. (See § 170.619 and 25 U.S.C. 450e(c).)

§ 170.914 What is the difference between tribal preference and Indian preference?

Indian preference is a hiring preference for Indians in general. Tribal preference is a preference adopted by a tribal government that may or may not include a preference for Indians in general, Indians of a particular tribe, Indians in a particular region, or any combination thereof.

§ 170.915 May tribal employment taxes or fees be included in an IRR project budget?

Yes. The cost of tribal employment taxes or fees may be included in the budget for an IRR program or project, except for BIA force account.

§ 170.916 May tribes impose taxes or fees on those performing IRR Program services?

Yes. Tribes, as sovereign nations, may impose taxes and fees for IRR Program activities. When a tribe administers IRR programs or projects under ISDEAA, its tribal employment and contracting preference laws, including taxes and fees, apply.

§ 170.917 Can tribes receive direct payment of tribal employment taxes or fees?

This section applies to non-tribally administered IRR projects. Tribes can request that BIA pay tribal employment taxes or fees directly to them under a voucher or other written payment instrument, based on a negotiated payment schedule. Tribes may consider requesting direct payment of tribal employment taxes or fees from other transportation departments in lieu of receiving their payment from the contractor.